

Severe Weather Risk

Thursday, February 20, 2014

Threat Assessment for south-central Indiana
and central Kentucky

Prepared: 2/20/14 7:15 PM EST

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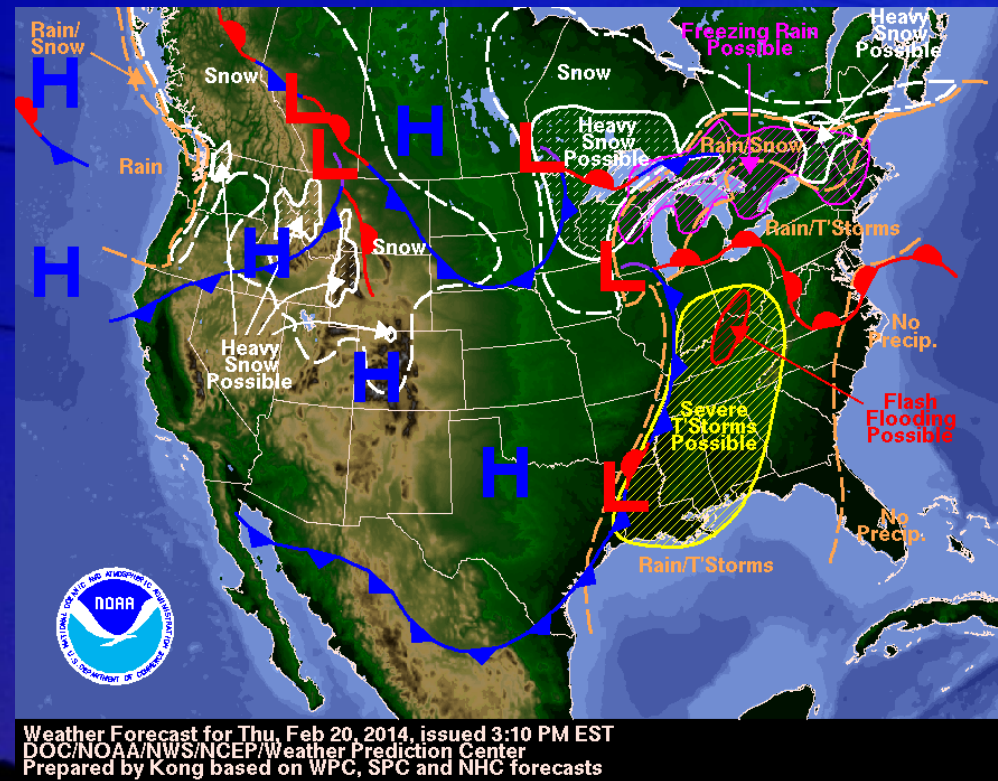


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Forecast



- A strong cold front will move through this evening bringing strong to severe thunderstorms
- Winds will gust through the evening, even outside of these storms
- A **TORNADO WATCH** is in effect for all of southern Indiana and central Kentucky until Midnight EST.

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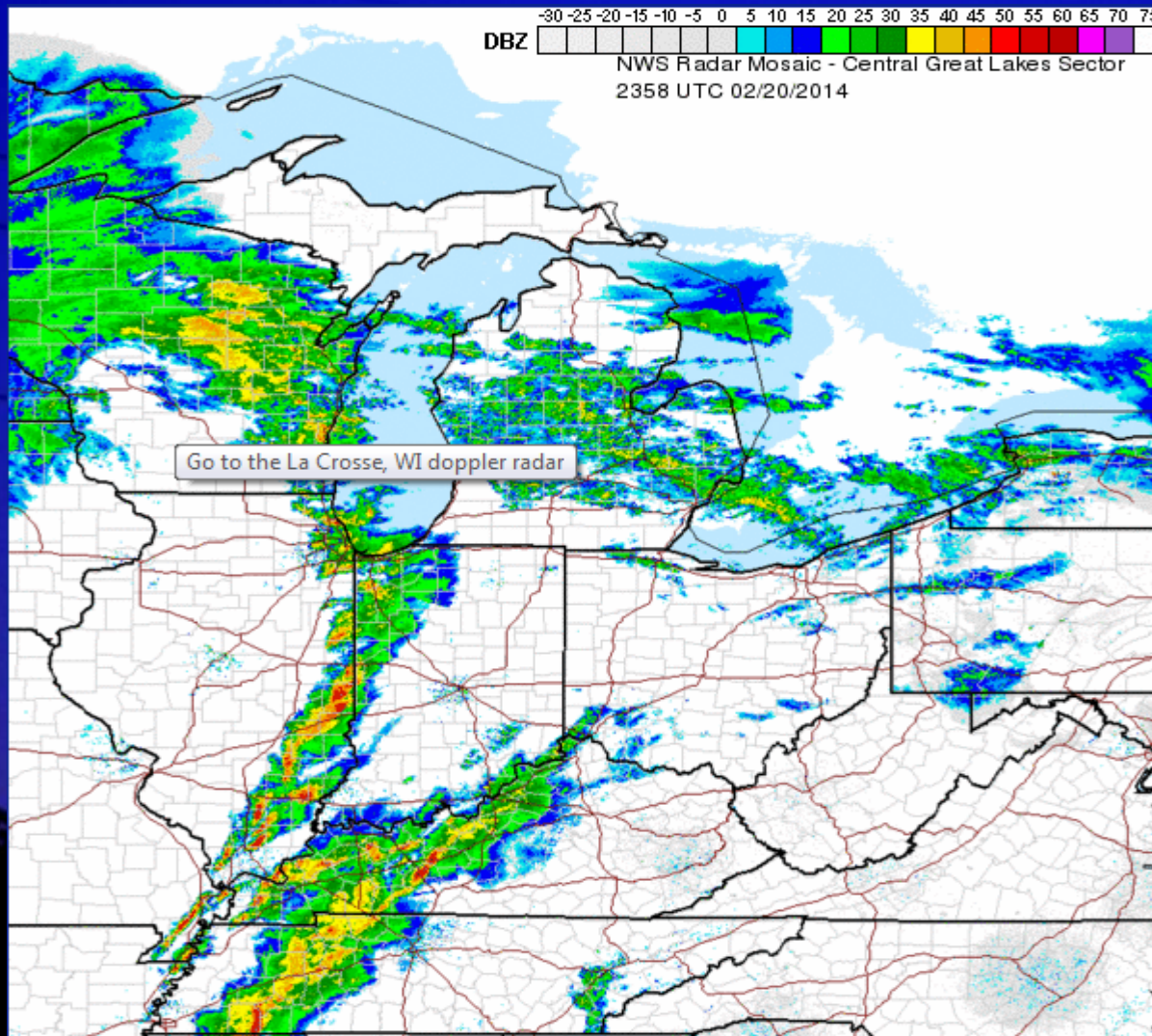


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A Tale of Two Bands



Two bands of storms
have formed this evening

The eastern one is
producing stronger
storms along the Western
KY parkway

The western one is along
the cold front and is will
produce stronger storms
over southern Indiana

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Expected Impacts

Wind: Damaging winds in excess of 65 MPH are possible within stronger storms. In addition, the combination of tree damage from recent icing events and the recent snowmelt has led to very soggy ground. Therefore, *the high wind threat with the squall line may result in higher than normal numbers of trees and branches coming down.* Gradient winds outside of thunderstorms will be strong this evening. Sustained winds of 20 to 30 MPH with gusts up to 45 MPH will be possible. A **Wind Advisory** is in effect until to 1 AM EST Friday.

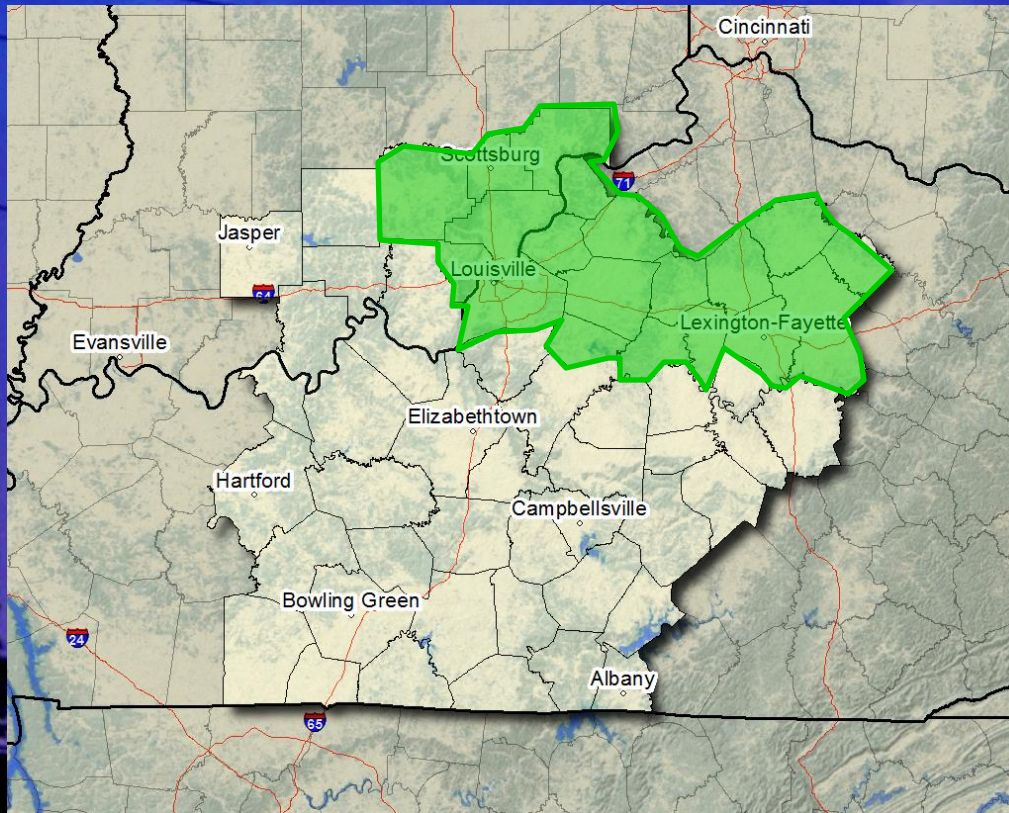
Tornadoes: Isolated tornadoes embedded within the thunderstorms will be possible through evening, especially across southern Indiana and along and south of a line in Kentucky from Leitchfield to Shelbyville.

Hail: Large hail is not expected, though some small hail may occur over central Kentucky this afternoon and evening.

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Expected Impacts

Flooding: Rainfall amounts of one to as much as two inches will be possible. *This rainfall combined with the recent snow melt may result in localized flash flooding in some areas.* A **Flash Flood Watch** is in effect until 1 AM EST Friday for the area highlighted below.



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Summary

- Strong to severe thunderstorms late this evening.
- Highest threat is damaging winds in excess of 65 MPH. Isolated tornadoes are possible as well.
- Recent tree damage due to icing events and soggy ground from recent snowmelt may result in a higher than normal number of trees and limbs coming down due to expected high winds.
- Localized flash flooding is possible due to the expected rainfall and saturated ground conditions.
- Gusty winds are likely through the evening, even outside of thunderstorms.

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